

Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Texas

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ALIEN SMUGGLING CHARGES FILED IN STASH HOUSE SHOOTOUT

(HOUSTON, TX) Charges have been filed against three Mexican nationals in connection with a shooting that occurred at a location where thirteen (13) undocumented immigrants were being held earlier this week. Jose Monsivais-Muniz, 25, Jesus Gomez-Ibarra, 21, and Roberto Carlos Lopez-Dominguez, 30, are charged by criminal complaint with harboring undocumented immigrants. The criminal complaint was filed this morning. Gomez-Ibarra and Lopez-Dominguez are scheduled to appear before a United States Magistrate Judge today for an initial appearance. The United States will seek their continued detention without bond pending further criminal proceedings. Monsivais-Muniz, who was wounded during the shooting, remains in a local hospital and in the custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcment (ICE) officials pending his discharge from the hospital.

The complaint alleges that on March 14, 2006, at approximately 9:00 a.m., ICE received a request for assistance from the Houston Police Department (HPD) regarding a possible hostage situation/shooting.

HPD received a 911 call regarding shots fired at 9011 Sandpiper St., Houston, Texas. According to the complaint, people were heard arguing and screaming; several vehicles were seen leaving the location; shots were heard and someone had possibly been shot. Three Hispanic males, one of whom had apparently been shot and was being carried, had been seen crossing the footbridge of Braes Bayou, located behind the Sandpiper Street residence, and last observed walking on Bob White St.

The complaint alleges that when HPD officers arrived at the scene, the three males were located and identified. The wounded subject was identified as **Jose** Monsivais-Muniz. One of the two other males, who had began walking apart from one another upon seeing HPD officers, was identified as Jesus Gomez-Ibarra. These men were detain. Monsivais-Muniz, who had been shot several times and was bleeding heavily from his right side and buttocks area, was transported to an area hospital for treatment.

HPD officers secured the scene at 9011 Sandpiper St., including a number of undocumented immigrants found inside the residence, until Houston ICE agents arrived. In the residence, officers observed a large amount of blood on the floor near the front door and bullet holes in the front door. HPD officers also seized an SKS assault rifle and several rounds of ammunition.

Upon arrival, ICE agents initiated their investigation, which resulted in the apprehension of a total of 24 undocumented immigrants, including the three (3) principal subjects: Jose Monsivais-Muniz, Jesus Ivan Gomez-Ibarra, and Roberto Carlos Lopez-Dominguez. Lopez-Dominguez had sustained a gunshot wound to the foot and was also transported to a local hospital for treatment.

From the residence, agents seized a list of the undocumented aliens, typically referred to as a "pollo" list. Seventeen (17) of the undocumented immigrants on the "pollo" list matched the names of those apprehended at 9011 Sandpiper St. The investigation of this case continues.

This case is being investigated by special agents of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jay Hileman and Doug Davis.

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